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MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMS DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR (2018-2019)

Authority

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Health Rules and Regulations 28 Pa. Code § 1021.103, The regional council governing body shall submit an annual report to the Department.

Reporting requirements of Appendix A – Work Statement. Comprehensive Annual Report as related to, Coordinate and Improve the delivery of EMS in the Council's region.

Report are due within 30 calendar days of the end of each state fiscal year (June 30th)

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REGIONAL SUMMARY:

(Provide a summary of the council including regional background / demographic and other information unique to individual region / county)

The Montgomery County Regional EMS Council was organized in 1988, after the original (five) Southeast PA EMS Council counties were dissolved to give each of the five counties a more direct role in providing EMS programs for their residents. It was very important to ensure that policies for providing EMS services and for training and equipping personnel were tailored to each county's needs.

Montgomery County is 483 square miles and it contains urbanized centers such as Norristown & Pottstown, large suburban communities on the eastern end & extensive tracts of farms and woodlands to the west. With a population of over 826,000, Montgomery County has a higher population than four individual states. It contains a complex array of highways including many miles of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, the largest shopping mall in America, a national park, a casino, and the Limerick (Nuclear) Generating station. There are also eight acute care hospitals, including two trauma centers.

Montgomery County EMS works very closely with our partners in adjoining counties and have cooperated for decades on civil defense and emergency management issues. More recently since the tragedies in 2001, the five county EMS offices have worked closely with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Task Force on regional planning and EMS issues.

Our professional staff ensure that all EMS personnel, agencies and ambulances are adequately equipped and prepared to provide the best out-of-hospital emergency care possible. We are responsible for inspecting ambulances, providing education and technical assistance, and administering certification exams. We also conduct investigations, provide clinical expertise with our Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) and coordinate with our hospitals to ensure quality care. We work closely with our elected municipal officials to conduct planning and coordination to improve our EMS system, including special events planning and emergency operation center activations during natural and man-made disasters. Clinical excellence is fostered by the Montgomery County Medical Advisory Committee (MAC). Other programs established to strengthen our capabilities include careful coordination and training with 9-1-1 telecommunicators, emergency managers, hospitals and public health. Our in-county emergency assets include a medical surge equipment cache and the resources to respond to mass-casualty incidents.

1. Board of Directors \ Health Council Officers

President: James Smale-EMT At Large
Vice President: Brian Kuklinski-Montgomery County Ambulance Association
Treasurer: Montgomery County
Secretary: Montgomery County-Susan Schulberger EMS Administrative Assistant

(Please list all other members below)

- | | <u>NAME</u> |
|----|---|
| 1 | <u>Dr. Alvin Wang-Regional Medical Director</u> |
| 2 | <u>Chief Michael Campeggio-Fire Liaison</u> |
| 3 | <u>Chief Michael Pitkow-Police Liaison</u> |
| 4 | <u>Albert Vagnozzi-Consumer-Elected
Official Liaison</u> |
| 5 | <u>Ms. Terry Ciccarone-Emergency Nurses
Liaison</u> |
| 6 | <u>Margaret McGoldrick-Hospital
Administrators</u> |
| 7 | <u>Dr. Stephen Pulley-Emergency Physicians</u> |
| 8 | <u>Dr. Robert Jubelier-Trauma Surgeons
ACOS</u> |
| 9 | <u>Matthew Welsh-Paramedic At Large</u> |
| 10 | <u>Tim Hinchcliff-Montgomery County
Ambulance Association</u> |

2. Regional EMS Council Staff:

Executive Director David Paul Brown

<u>STAFF POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>
<u>Assistant Training Coordinator</u>	<u>Margaret L. DeShon</u>
<u>Pre-Hospital Systems Coordinator</u>	<u>Timothy P. Dunigan, III</u>
<u>Field Specialist</u>	<u>Edward J. Martin</u>
<u>Training Coordinator</u>	<u>Brian P. Pasquale</u>
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	<u>Susan Schulberger</u>

3. Regional Medical Director(s)

	<u>NAME</u>
1	<u>Dr. Alvin Wang</u>

4. **Financial Statement of income and expenses:**

	Final Budget	Expended
Personnel Services	\$290,661.50	\$290,661.50
Consultant Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subcontracted Services	\$29,178.50	\$29,178.50
Patient Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$319,840.00	\$319,840.00

NOTE: THE AMOUNTS SHOWN ABOVE ARE PRELIMINARY END OF YEAR TOTALS AND NOT FINAL AUDIT AMOUNT

5. **Special Project Funding:**

Projects as determined by the Department to be appropriate and necessary for the implementation of a comprehensive statewide EMS system. The amounts listed below are included in the categorical totals shown above.

(Project Name Here)	Amount: \$0.00
(Project Name Here)	Amount: \$0.00
(Project Name Here)	Amount: \$0.00

6. Regional Activities/ Organizational Management

Date of the current Comprehensive Regional EMS System Plan	Date
Number of Board of Director Meetings \ Health Council meetings	4
Public Education Stop-the- Bleed Events	7
Public Education CPR Events	20
Number of Legislative Inquiries or Contacts	1
Technical Assistance Request (local entities and elected officials)	25

Regional Activities/ Organizational Management Project Narrative:

Montgomery County operates the PulsePoint alerting app for CPR Needed calls, to be directly alerted to citizen first responders. The registered CPR ready persons who have signed up for phone alerts will be activated if they are within one quarter mile of someone needing CPR. There is also a crowdsourcing app titled AED registry that enables citizens to register AED sites, they are validated by the EMS staff and the CPR needed responders are notified where the nearest AED is located to the emergency. There are over 3,500 registered citizen responders.

Bleeding Control and tourniquet training has expanded this year, as many organizations are interested in becoming trained and equipped. 111 people were trained including groups such as school nurses, security, and fire departments.

Public CPR courses continue to make progress, 1,779 public CPR cards were issued with hundreds trained in hands only CPR.

MCEMS continues its work with EMS Agencies and municipal leaders to ensure that response areas are properly defined and improve patient care. Staff worked with ambulance agencies, municipalities, and the 9-1-1 Emergency Communications center to revise and refine emergency response zones across the county.

7. Continuous Quality Improvement

	Quantity
Number of Clinical Cases Reviewed by Regional QI Committee	2
Accidents Involving Ambulances / EMS Personnel Reported in the Region	26
Number of Times the Regional QI Committee Met	3

MCEMS continues to file all Fatal Accident Report Study (FARS) cases as requested

Montgomery County participates with all EMS agencies in the CARES data for cardiac arrest outcomes

8. Medical Direction

	Quantity
Regional Medical Advisory Committee meetings	3
Accredited Level I Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level II Trauma Centers	2
Accredited Level III Trauma Centers	0
Accredited Level IV Trauma Centers	0
Accredited primary Stroke Centers	8
Comprehensive Stroke Centers	1
Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Centers	1
Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals	9

Medical Direction Narrative:

EMS staff and our Regional Medical Director attend and participate in all State MAC meetings

An Intravenous nitroglycerin protocol for Congestive Heart Failure was submitted and approved by our Regional medical Director, Dr. Alvin Wang for inclusion in the State Treatment protocols.

There is a current pilot project to use Ketamine for Sedation Assisted Intubation (SAI) involving fourteen EMS Agencies across four EMS Regional Councils. The study began in August of 2018 and is scheduled to be completed in December of 2019.

Three hospital systems were inspected for re-accreditation as Medical Command Facilities.

Hospital Advisory-Status-MCEMS staff along with Emergency Management has developed an on-line divert-status web page that enables hospitals to log on and declare their facility status for readiness. Using a product called Virtual Emergency Operations Center Information (VEOCI) the hospital staff are enabled to log on and record the status of their facilities.

9. Systems Operations

	Quantity
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Agencies	1
Spot inspections conducted – EMS Vehicles	2
Spot inspections conducted – Continuing Education Sponsors	0
Spot inspections conducted – Education Institutes	5
Spot inspections conducted – Medical Command Facilities	0

Number of Safety Inspections Conducted	2
Number of Vehicles Inspected During Safety Inspection	19
Photo & Signatures Added to Certification Cards	135
BLS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	4
Number of BLS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested.	69
ALS Psychomotor Examinations Conducted	0
Number of ALS Psychomotor Exam Candidates Tested	0
Certification Class Visits Conducted	15
Number of EMS Agency Re-Inspections Conducted	11
Number of Authorized Inquiry Reports Filed with the Bureau	7

Systems Operations Narrative:

MCEMS is the sole accredited Training Institute and conducts training programs from multiple sites. During this fiscal year the sites were visited to conduct student orientations and photo IDs as well as provide educational oversight for students and faculty.

Spot and safety inspections were conducted upon request of the Bureau to address specific issues concerning ambulance licensure or equipment or personnel concerns.

MCEMS worked closely with Lafayette Ambulance and Upper Merion Township to ensure a smooth and uninterrupted level of service when the agency was merged into a Township Emergency Services organization.

Staff assisted, coordinated and completed an inspection process for two medical helicopters in New Jersey. Cooper Hospital Air medical helicopters were inspected and attained a Pennsylvania EMS License.

December of 2018-Montgomery County EMS-Public Safety and Emergency Communications launched the Priority One EMS Dispatch procedure to send the closest ambulance to select priority one urgent nature codes. The system performs using mobile data computers installed in most ambulances by selecting the closest EMS unit using GPS signals. The closest possible EMS unit determined by their GPS position is alerted and sent towards the scene immediately, as well as alerting the proper zoned ambulance agency.

10. Emergency Preparedness Activities

	Quantity
Coalition / Task Force Meetings Attended (only EMSOF funded staff attendance)	24
Table Top Exercises Attended / Conducted	4
Full Scale / Functional Exercises Attended / Conducted	2
Special Event Plans Submitted	3
Responses / Deployments	2
Strike Team Agencies	3

Emergency Preparedness Narrative:

MCEMS is very active in regional planning and coordination for emergency preparedness. Planning and participation with groups including, Health Care Coalition and monthly hospital zone meetings, Southern PA Task Force, Emergency Response Workgroup and EMS committee.

Table Top exercises completed this cycle include, Casino Security and Terrorism, Dam Failure, and Medical Counter Measures and Resource Request Processing of Strategic National Stockpile Materials.

Montgomery County EMS maintains a close relationship with the County Emergency Management and County Office of Public Health and participated in the planning for Medical Counter Measures response and the Office of Public Health Operational Readiness Review with State and Federal partners.

Staff participated in two full scale exercises involving MS-1 hospitals and an EMS unit transporting a possibly contaminated radiation patient to a hospital emergency department.

Chief Officers Seminar-Several presentations on emerging issues and EMS staff presented on Fire Department Assistance at Mass Casualty and Active Shooter Incidents.

MCEMS introduced the Health Care Coalition, the Bureau of EMS, and Long-Term Care facilities to a new Smart tag system of evacuation tags for use in organizing a long term care or hospital facility.

MCEMS attended and participated in two State Advisory Committee on Preparedness meetings.

Staff attended and participated in a coordinating meeting for Ebola Transport Team Plans.

Staff along with County Emergency management and the coordinator for the SE Health Care Coalition conducted Hazard Vulnerability Analysis meetings for Long Term Care facilities.

MCEMS continues to support three Strike Team EMS Agencies as well as Emergency Response assets including: Medical Surge Equipment Cache and a casualty Collection Point mobile trailer.

MCEMS maintains five mass casualty care asset caches using SEPA Task Force resources.

11. Board of Director \ Health Council Meetings

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
9-5-18	1230-200	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
12-5-18	1230-130	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
3-6-19	1230-200	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
6-5-19	1230-130	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428

12. Medical Advisory Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
12-12-18	1000-1200	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
2-27-19	1000-1200	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
5-22-19	1000-1200	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
		Click or tap here to enter text.

13. Quality Improvement Committee Meeting

DATE:	TIME	LOCATION
12-12-18	900-1000	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
2-27-19	900-1000	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
5-22-19	900-1000	1175 Conshohocken Road, Conshohocken, PA 19428
		Click or tap here to enter text.

14. Regional Accomplishments:

Narrative:

MCEMS staff participates in all Montgomery County Ambulance Association meetings and activities to work closely together on mutually beneficial projects and improve the EMS System.

Montgomery County EMS and the Montgomery County Ambulance Association worked closely on a major recruitment project as the group project under the State funding program. A committee has focused on three priority projects including development of recruitment videos about EMS, developing landing web page(s) with EMS Agency profiles, information about the County Training Institute, and a fillable common application that will automatically submit to a emscareers@montcopa.org e-mail address.

Director Ferguson visited the EMS offices including the 9-1-1 center, Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and EMS Training Institute,

MCEMS continues to participate in several Overdose Program initiatives:

As the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) grant Central Coordinating Entity, we have distributed thousands of doses to all approved entities.

The County Overdose Task Force was established in 2015 and continues to foster education, prevention, response, and recovery from overdose emergencies, MCEMS staff participate with the task force

MCEMS collects and processes all Naloxone use data by police, EMS and other authorized agencies

Naloxone usage reports are produced and distributed on a quarterly and annual basis

Harleysville EMS is the first EMS Agency in Montgomery County to participate in the leave behind Naloxone program

MCEMS reported the police and EMS data to the Overdose Command Center staff

MCEMS is working with the Overdose Information Network (PSP) to share Naloxone data.

MCEMS staff responded to several Emergency Operations Center or Field Command Post locations

August 13 Severe Flooding including expressways caused EMS and rescue access issues

August 14 Walmart Shooting Cheltenham Township-several persons shot, coordination with EMS and hospitals including trauma centers

August 15 Manor Care-Lower Moreland, Fire and Evacuation-Field response including major incident level; 4 for EMS, SMART bus and medical rehab-transport bus and wheelchair van assets from multiple agencies were involved. Regional Medical Director and EMS Director as well as HCC/HAP were all on scene

September 8 Bus Crash PA Turnpike Upper Merion Township, a charter bus overran the exit ramp, and injured 34 passengers, MCI level 4 response including EMS Director and Regional Medical Director on scene

May 29 Upper Salford Township Storm caused major damage to trees, electrical wires, damaged homes and no access to portions of the Township. EMS and Emergency Management responded to the scene and assisted with medical issues and power outages for multiple days.

Infection Control Course was conducted for emerging and infectious diseases. The three-day program educated 45 people on the proper procedures and policies in place to enhance our preparedness for disease outbreaks including personal protective equipment.

Emergency Communications Training- Three new telecommunicator classes were trained in the APCO Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols to be used for 9-1-1 emergencies utilizing dispatch and emergency telephone instructions
